NEWS RELEASE

MATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA CATTLE ON FEED UP 2 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

LINCOLN, Neb., March 18, 2005 -- Nebraska feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.32 million cattle on feed on March 1, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The inventory was up 2 percent from last year and 6 percent above March 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 315,000 head, down 10 percent from 2004 and 5 percent below 2003.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 330,000 head, down 4 percent from last year and 6 percent below February two years ago. Other disappearance during February totaled 15,000 head compared with 15,000 head during February 2004 and 10,000 head during February 2003.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 2 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.2 million head on March 1, 2005. The inventory was 2 percent above March 1, 2004 and 6 percent above March 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.52 million, 6 percent below 2004 and 8 percent below 2003.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.63 million, 4 percent below 2004 and 6 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 76,000 during February, 10 percent above 2004 and 7 percent above 2003.

Access the National publication for this release at: http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/pct-bbc/2005/cofd0305.pdf